

said single clutch disc being configured to be mounted on a transmission input shaft having a longitudinal axis;

said single clutch disc being configured to be axially movable along the longitudinal axis of a transmission input shaft;

a pressure plate;

at least one friction lining mounted on said clutch disc;

said at least one friction lining being configured to be disposed between said pressure plate and a flywheel;

said pressure plate being configured and disposed to engage and disengage said clutch disc with a flywheel;

said pressure plate being configured and disposed to be axially movable along the longitudinal axis of a transmission input shaft;

a membrane spring;

said membrane spring being disposed between said clutch housing and said pressure plate;

said membrane spring being configured and disposed to bias said pressure plate;

said pressure plate comprising a first portion and a second portion;

said first portion of said pressure plate being disposed to contact said clutch disc;

said second portion of said pressure plate being disposed away from said clutch disc;

a thermal insulating member being configured to minimize heat conduction from said pressure plate to said membrane spring;

said insulating member being disposed between said membrane spring and said first portion of said pressure plate;

Official

FAX RECEIVED

MAR 23 2001

GRANT 3600